

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Representative McMillan of Robeson places in nomination the name of Representative David M. Britt for Speaker of the 1967 House of Representatives.

"Mr. Chairman, honored guests, fellow members of the House of Representatives: It is my particular pleasure and privilege to nominate for your consideration as Speaker of the 1967 House of Representatives my good friend and colleague, the Honorable David Maxwell Britt of Robeson.

Because of the absence of the veto power on the part of the Governor of North Carolina, and for other reasons, the General Assembly of this State has often been referred to as the most powerful in the nation.

The exercise of this tremendous power in the best interest of all of the people of North Carolina is a responsibility of awesome proportions and requires leadership of the finest caliber.

The Speaker of this House of Representatives, then, must be a man of the highest integrity and ability, thoroughly versed in the history of our great State, with a profound knowledge of the needs of our people and of their willingness to provide for those needs. He must have the complete confidence of every member of the House, a thorough knowledge of the character and ability of each of us, and a fine sense of humor, in order that he might keep us from each other's throats in the heat of legislative battle. He must have at his fingertips, for instant use, all of the rules of this House, all of the rules of parliamentary procedure, and all of the rules of human nature, together with the judgment, the ability and the courage to use them to enact good legislation and to thwart that which is not in the best interest of our people.

Mr. Chairman, the lady from Wayne, gentlemen of the House, I submit to you that the Honorable David Maxwell Britt of Robeson has all of these qualifications and many more.

Mr. Britt was born in the fine little Robeson County Town of McDonald, a little over 21 years ago, the oldest of the seven children of Dudley H. and Martha Mae Hall Britt, whose forebears go far back in the history of that section of the State, having first settled in Robeson County in the early seventeen hundreds.

Helping his father run a country store and farm during the depression years was good training for this energetic youngster, who, in the not too distant future, was destined to play a large part in shaping the State's more than two billion dollar budget, as Chairman of the House Appropriation Committee and as a member of the Advisory Budget Committee.

Upon his graduation from Lumberton High School, he attended Wake Forest College and Wake Forest Law School as a self-help student. He passed the bar examinations in August of 1937, before he was 21 years old. Being too young to meet the State's requirement for a law license, he had to wait several months to begin his practice.